

would lead to an irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources prior to the submittal of the remainder of the information required by § 50.30(f) of this chapter that would prejudice the later review and decision on such alternative sites; or

(2) In cases where it appears that an early partial decision on any issue or issues of site suitability would not be in the public interest considering (i) the degree of likelihood that any early findings on those issues would retain their validity in later reviews, (ii) the objections, if any, of cognizant state or local government agencies to the conduct of an early review on those issues, and (iii) the possible effect on the public interest and the parties of having an early, if not necessarily conclusive, resolution of those issues.

[42 FR 22885, May 5, 1977, as amended at 49 FR 9401, Mar. 12, 1984]

**§ 2.606 Partial decisions on site suitability issues.**

(a) The provisions of §§ 2.754, 2.755, 2.760, 2.761, 2.762, 2.763, and 2.764(a) shall apply to any partial initial decision rendered in accordance with this subpart. Section 2.764(b) shall not apply to any partial initial decision rendered in accordance with this subpart. No limited work authorization may be issued pursuant to § 50.10(e) of part 50 of this chapter and no construction permit may be issued without completion of the full review required by section 102(2) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and subpart A of part 51 of this chapter. The authority of the Commission to review such a partial initial decision *sua sponte*, or to raise *sua sponte* an issue that has not been raised by the parties, will be exercised within the same time period as in the case of a full decision relating to the issuance of a construction permit.

(b)(1) A partial decision on one or more site suitability issues pursuant to the applicable provisions of part 50, subpart A of part 51, and part 100 of this chapter issued in accordance with this subpart shall (i) clearly identify the site to which the partial decision applies and (ii) indicate to what extent additional information may be needed and additional review may be required

to enable the Commission to determine in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the applicable provisions of the regulations in this chapter whether a construction permit for a facility to be located on the site identified in the partial decision should be issued or denied.

(2) Following completion of Commission review of the partial initial decision of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, after hearing, on the site suitability issues, the partial decision shall remain in effect either for a period of five years or, where the applicant for the construction permit has made timely submittal of the information required to support the application as provided in § 2.101(a-1), until the proceeding for a permit to construct a facility on the site identified in the partial decision has been concluded,<sup>3</sup> unless the Commission or Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, upon its own initiative or upon motion by a party to the proceeding, finds that there exists significant new information that substantially affects the earlier conclusions and reopens the hearing record on site suitability issues. Upon good cause shown, the Commission may extend the five year period during which a partial decision shall remain in effect for a reasonable period of time not to exceed one year.

[42 FR 22885, May 5, 1977, as amended at 49 FR 9401, Mar. 12, 1984]

**Subpart G—Rules of General Applicability**

**§ 2.700 Scope of subpart.**

The general rules in this subpart govern procedure in all adjudications initiated by the issuance of an order pursuant to § 2.202, an order pursuant to § 2.205(e), a notice of hearing, a notice of proposed action issued pursuant to § 2.105, or a notice issued pursuant to § 2.102(d)(3). The procedures applicable to the proceeding on an application for a license to receive and possess high-level radioactive waste at a geologic

<sup>3</sup>The partial decision on site suitability issues shall be incorporated in the decision regarding issuance of a construction permit to the extent that it serves as a basis for the decision on a specific site issue(s).